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Senate

(Legislative day of Tuesday, June 17, 1997)

The Senate met at 10 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.—Numbers 6:24-26.

Father, we begin this day by claiming this magnificent fivefold assurance. We ask You to make this a delightful day filled with Your blessings. May we live today with the esteem of knowing You have chosen us and called us to receive Your love and to serve You. Give us the helmet of salvation to protect our thinking from any intrusion of temptation to pride, resistance to Your guidance, or negative attitudes. Smile on us as Your face, Your presence, lifts us from fear or frustration.

Thank You for Your grace to overcome the grimness that sometimes pervades our countenances. Instead, we want to reflect Your countenance of joy. May Your peace flow into us, calming our spirits, conditioning our dispositions, and controlling all that we say and do.

Help us to experience the peace of a forgiven, forgiving heart, the peace of a heart completely open to You, and the peace of a pure heart filled with Your spirit. You are the sole source of perfect peace. So help us to say to others, "Have a blessed day," and to expect nothing less for ourselves. In the name of our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able acting majority leader, Senator SESSIONS of Alabama, is recognized.

Mr. SESSIONS. Thank you, Mr. President.

SCHEDULE

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, on behalf of the majority leader, I announce that the Senate will be in a period of morning business today until the hour of 12 noon. Following morning business, it is the majority leader's intention to begin consideration of the Department of Defense authorization bill. If an agreement cannot be reached to proceed to the DOD authorization bill, the Senate will, hopefully, begin consideration of the intelligence authorization bill. Therefore, Senators can expect rollcall votes throughout today's session on these matters. As always, Senators will be notified accordingly when any rollcall votes are scheduled. I thank my colleagues for their attention.

Mr. FORD addressed the Chair.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING DEMOCRATIC LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ROBERTS). The assistant Democratic leader is recognized.

DOING THE BEST WE CAN WITH GOD'S GUIDANCE

Mr. FORD. Mr. President, I want to take just one moment, if I may. Yesterday, the Chaplain very eloquently asked for God's blessing on our Democratic leader in the loss of his father. It indicates that all of us are human, and we are here just attempting to do the best we can with God's guidance.

Today, the Democratic leader's father will be laid to rest in his home of South Dakota. I hope that all of us will give some thought to the leader and his family as they gather to mourn the loss of his father.

I do thank the Chair for allowing me to express my concern for our leader, and I know all of us feel basically the same way. I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 12 noon, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 5 minutes each. The Senator from Alabama is recognized to speak for up to 60 minutes.

Mr. SESSIONS. Thank you, Mr. President.

WE SHARE IN THE PAIN

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I appreciate the remarks of the Senator from Kentucky about the death of the minority leader's father. We all share in that pain. There is a sense of sadness in this body, and as we contemplate that, maybe it helps us all reflect on the fact that we are all human beings who share the same goals for the betterment of this country. I think that is a good thing for us to contemplate.

JUVENILE CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, S. 10, the juvenile justice bill that will shortly be before this Senate, is one of the best pieces of legislation for law enforcement that I have seen in a number of years. I am absolutely convinced that it is the finest reform of criminal justice in at least 20 years.

This bill was crafted last term by Senator HATCH, who is a prime sponsor

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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